Student Technology Fee

Grant Proposal

2009.029

2008-09

Tracy Brown

Approved  Denied

Comment: Project was mobile or mounted?

Diana Hamilton

Approved  Denied

Gary Gatch

Approved  Denied

Comment: ________________________________

Mike McDonald

Approved  Denied

Comment: ________________________________

Dale Martin

Approved  Denied

Comment: ________________________________
Student Technology Fee
Grant Proposal Request Form
Fiscal Year 2008-09
Northwestern State University of Louisiana

ALL BLANKS MUST BE FILLED COMPLETELY

Prepared by: Robert Graham For: Theatre & Dance

Department/Unit: CAPA College: Liberal Arts Campus: MAIN

Which NSTEP Goals/Objectives does this project meet? 1, 2, 6, 7, 8

Requested equipment will be located/installed/housed? Building 25 Room 128

Are department property policies and procedures in place for requested equipment? Yes

Which individual will be responsible for property control of the requested equipment?

Signature: [Signature] Date: 31 Oct 09

Grant Proposal Requested Amount: $16,325 Budget Attached (circle one): YES/NO

Grant delivered to Student Technology located in Watson Library, Room 113. Date

The grant proposal must include all specifications, description, model number, quotation, cost, state contract number, and vendor for each item. If the proposal does not include all requested information, it will be returned to requestor.

1. Describe target audience.

These items will be available to, and utilized by, the faculty and student body of the Theatre Department. Technical/Design Concentration students and faculty will have the majority of hands on use with the system. Dance and Acting Directing students and faculty will have the ability to expand their creative visions through use of the system as tools for communication.

2. Describe project/initiative for which you are requesting funds.

The project is to upgrade and enhance the design studio, a room previously established using student technology grants. This initiative will upgrade the tools and software used in the theatrical design and creative process to the latest available technology.
3. State measurable objectives that will be used to determine the impact/effectiveness of the project.

A. Improve the Theatre Curriculum and improve the technology available for student learning, research and creative work.
B. Improve our students educational experience and skill set in order to enable them to compete in the modern Graduate School and workplace environments.
C. Increase the recruitment and retention abilities of the department through availability of resources found in the current workplace.

4. Indicate how each project objective will be evaluated.
A. We shall evaluate how the system is used in productions and as part of classroom projects,, and also get feedback from the general student body and general population that attend productions and events in which the system is used.
B. Design and Technology students go through a regular portfolio review process where experience with the technology shall be evaluated through their presentations. In addition recently graduated students often return feedback on their ability to successfully gain employment or graduate student positions.
C. The system can be utilized for workshops for recruitment drives on campus such as the Louisiana Thespians Conference which is hosted annually here in Natchitoches. During any recruitment drive our faculty and students take a Department portfolio showcasing work that has been accomplished on our campus, in which this system can be a highlight.

5. If funded, which NSTEP http://www.nsula.edu/nstep/NSTEP.pdf objective(s) will this funding of this project advance. How will funding of the project advance the University and College/unit technology plan?
1. To improve access to technology by students, faculty, and staff at Northwestern State University.
   This system will give students and faculty access to equipment specialized for their educational and research needs.
2. To provide classrooms with updated technology and multimedia.
6. To provide a system for maintenance, upgrade, user training, and support of technology that will extend into the future.
All Design/Technical staff, faculty, and students will be trained on how the system operates, what functions require maintenance, and how to plan for maintenance to ensure continuous effective use throughout the life of the system. These concepts shall prove valuable to any future systems that replace this system at the end of its useful life span.
7. To establish processes that encourage technology initiatives by faculty, staff, and students.
   In order to fully utilize this system some student and staff members shall challenge themselves to learn creative methods for the design and creative process.
8. To encourage innovation and research.
As with #7 above, this system will allow a new level of creativity in design, direction, and choreography. Directors and Choreographers shall be able to use visual design tools to enhance their communicative and creative processes.
6. Provide a justification for funding of this project. Estimate the number of student that will be served per academic year and in what ways. Please indicate also any unique needs of the target group.

This project will have a visible and remarkable impact upon the Department, the University, and the surrounding region in many ways:
A. Teaching the student body to use modern technology in existing and experimental ways
B. Improving the quality of productions available on campus for both the student body and citizens of the region.
C. Improving the quality and scope of student portfolios that are vital to their success after graduation.
D. Improves upon our ability to recruit and retain students.

Approximate number of students served per academic year, with the assumption that 8 production shall utilize the system in a single academic year:
Students working on a production - 80 per production, 640 per year

7. List those individuals who will be responsible for the implementation of the project/initiative and indicate their demonstrated abilities to accomplish the objectives of the project.

Robert Graham - MFA Lighting Design - Facilities /Production Manager/Lighting Designer
Shawn Parr - BFA Theatre Technology - Adjunct Professor/Sound Designer/Technology Consultant
Jessica Parr - MFA Costume Design - Costume Designer/Assistant Professor

8. Describe any personnel (technical or otherwise) required to support the project/initiative.

Alfred Ehlers from Student Technologies will need to configure the computer system as is typical of a Student Technology project.

Shawn Parr & Robert Graham as mentioned above to maintain all the supplementary equipment.

No other staff or faculty is required for this project to succeed.

9. Provide a schedule for implementation and evaluation.
March 2009 - order equipment
May 2009 - all equipment received and configured
June 2009 - Equipment ready to be field-tested and evaluated. Any software configuration changes necessary shall be reported to Student Technology
August 2009 - If necessary confirm that any changes were successful
10. Estimate the expected life of hardware and software. Explain any anticipated equipment/software upgrades during the next five years.

No hardware upgrades should be necessary within five years, exceptions being for computer hardware failures in existing systems.

Software upgrades will only be necessary if bugs are found in the system, or as software releases become available for the software. Configuration of these upgrades may be capable of being handled without any impact outside of the Department of Theatre.

11. Explain in detail a plan and policy that will be in place to ensure property security/controls for any equipment received through a Student Technology Fee. If you are requesting equipment that will be either/or checkout to students or moved within the department, you must provide a checkout/loan policy.

12. Detailed budget include all specs, pricing and vendors. Any incomplete proposal will be returned.

This equipment is to be placed in a classroom already designated for use as a design lab. It is a secure facility with limited access.

Attach two (2) letters of support for the project from the following individuals: the requesting department’s Dean, the appropriate Vice President (for non-academic units), or the SGA President from the requesting campus (for student requests).
## Proposed Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QTY</th>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Unit Price</th>
<th>Extended Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>M-Audio Oxygen 61 keyboards</td>
<td>Midi Controller</td>
<td>$175.00</td>
<td>$4200</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Wacom Intuos3 6x8 drawing tablets</td>
<td>Graphics Drawing Interface</td>
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<td>$3015</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Vectorworks 2009 Network Dongle</td>
<td>CADD Software</td>
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<td>$200</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>VW 2009 Seat License</td>
<td>Software Licenses</td>
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<td>$2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>HP Designjet 500 – 42”</td>
<td>Large Format CADD Printer – 42” Capacity</td>
<td>$3000</td>
<td>$3000</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Dell M209X LCD Projector</td>
<td>LCD Projector</td>
<td>$900</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Calcomp Drawingboard VI, 24” x 36”</td>
<td>CADD Drawing Board</td>
<td>$3000</td>
<td>$3000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PROJECT TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$16,325</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
October 31, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of support for Northwestern Theatre and Dance’s request for 2008/2009 Student Technology Grants. I concur with the description of “need” as described in the grant application. If approved, the theatre and dance program would be greatly improved in its offering theatre/dance students “up-to-date training” in cutting edge theatre technology. The technology would also prove a valuable asset in the recruiting and retention of students. It would allow Northwestern Theatre and Dance to continue its drive to become the leading theatre/dance program in the state, if not the region. Of course, the introduction of this technology would allow our students to obtain the skills and techniques allowing them to become more marketable in a very competitive profession.

The requested technology will supplement our training of theatre/dance students within our program, but also provide our University and local community audiences a chance to view productions incorporating the latest trends in theatre technology. Concepts, like the ones Northwestern Theatre students will be able to perform with this technology, can be seen in a number of current Broadway and professional theatre/dance productions. Incorporating this technology into Northwestern Theatre/Dance productions will only improve the positive opinions of our program within the University and local communities.

Again, the Northwestern Theatre and Dance program hopes the Approving Committee will look favorably at our proposals and provide funding which in turn, allow our program and the University to become the leading Theatre/Dance training program in the region. If I can be of further assistance in the matter, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Scott Burrell  
Coordinator of Theatre and Dance  
Northwestern State University  
Natchitoches, LA  71497  
318-357-6891  
nsburrellc@nsula.edu
October 31, 2008

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The School of Creative and Performing is extremely thankful to the Student Technology Fund Committee for the support we received over the years for our different grant requests. Without this support, our ability to prepare our students for their future careers would be severely impacted. With that in mind, the Theatre and Dance program is submitting two projects to be funded through Student Technology Fee Grants. I concur with the need for the equipment and technology specified, and to the priority given the projects.

The first grant for consideration is for the theatre/dance program to assemble a fully functional audio and video production studio. This studio will allow a suite to record, edit, and produce audio and video cues in a private setting. The system will center around a main computer system, with adequate support equipment to facilitate audio recording, and both audio and video editing/production. The system(s) shall be as identically configured as possible to existing lab systems used for teaching the software and systems in use. Additional functionality will be available which are difficult to implement in a lab situation due to size constraints and disturbance of other students. This suite shall be capable of voice over and individual instrument recording, 5.1 surround sound production, and music/effect creation. DVD authoring capabilities are included as well. This projection system will be available to, and utilized by, the faculty and student body of the Theatre/Dance Department. Technical/Design Concentration students and faculty will have the majority of hands on use with the system. Dance and Acting Directing students and faculty will have the ability to expand their creative visions through use of the system.

The second grant to be considered is an upgrade and enhancement of the design studio, a room previously established using student technology grants. This initiative will upgrade the tools and software used in the theatrical design and creative process to the latest available technology. These items will be available to, and utilized by, the faculty and student body of the Theatre/Dance Program. Technical/Design Concentration students and faculty will have the majority of hands on use with the system. Dance and Acting Directing students and faculty will have the ability to expand their creative visions through use of the system as tools for communication.

Sincerely,

Bill Brent
Director, School of Creative and Performing Arts
October 31, 2008

Student Technology Committee
Northwestern State University
Natchitoches, LA 71497

Dear Committee Members:

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Thank you very much for your time and consideration of these grant proposals, and your continued support of the Northwestern Theatre & Dance Program and the College of Liberal Arts.

Best regards,

Lisa Abney Ph.D.